



Wishes...

Did you ever do the wish on a star thing?

If you were guaranteed to have your wish granted, what's something you would wish for and why?

Read John 14:13-14 & 15:7-8

In these verses, Jesus makes some pretty bold statements. How do those statements affect you? How do you apply them to your life?

Every Christmas, we let our attention gravitate toward the giving and receiving of gifts... we think about what we want and what other people want. People ask us what we want and we go ahead and tell them, but in these passages, Jesus clearly tells us to bring our wants, desires, wishes to him! This Christmas, we are going to practice bringing our needs to Jesus and through Jesus to our Heavenly Father!

Read Luke 11:1-10

Luke's version of "The Lord's Prayer" is shorter than Matthew's because Jesus probably taught this lesson a lot in slightly different ways. Jesus intended for this prayer to serve as a pattern or model not to be memorized and recited.

The first phrase of the prayer reminds us that we should think of God as our Glorious Father, high and lifted up, but also personal and close. What are some ways you are aware of God's closeness? What are some ways you are aware of his glory and exaltation? How do those two truths affect you?

Read Luke 2:8-20

The Christmas story is an amazing story of the Glorious Almighty God coming near to people. How does this story of angels and shepherds affect you? What aspects of the story are particularly meaningful to you this year?

Consider the song of the angels: "Glory to God... and Peace on Earth..." How does bringing glory to God bring peace on Earth?

In what ways could you use some peace this Christmas?

What would it look like for you to put the Father first this season, and what difference would it make?

Finish your time this week in a time of prayer and/or worship. If you can't think of a song to sing, look up some Christmas carols!



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